

Jackson, Mississippi. Reverend Albert Thornton organized Morning Star Baptist Church with fifteen members in 1925. Services were held in Cuney Hall, located on the corner of Farish and Amite Streets. There was only one Deacon, Ike Brown. Two months later, five additional deacons were appointed: I.S. Brown, John Pearson, Lee James, Bill McCuring and Dempsey Lewis. Brothers Leonard Wilson, H.C. Carter and Landy McWright served as trustees. The first mothers were Lula Lofton, Carter and McQuine. The first church clerk was Clarence Winter.

The Missionary Society was organized by Sister Lula Lofton who served as its president; the Sunday School was organized by Brother Sell Mason who served as superintendent; the Baptist Training Union was organized by Brother Leonard Wilson who served as director and the Senior Choir was organized by Deacon I.S. Brown who served as president. Deacon Brown later organized other choirs and directed them for more than 29 years.

The first revival service was held under a tent on Hamilton Street with Reverend Billy Sunday, from Alabama, serving as evangelist. During this service, 25 candidates for baptism were received. Baptism took place in the Pearl River.

Under the pastorate of Reverend Thornton, land was purchased to build a church; however, Reverend Thornton resigned in 1928. Reverend James Beard and Reverend Richard Hardis then led the church for short periods. Reverend N.C. Johnson later elected as pastor, and a frame church was built. Upon completion of the church, Reverend Johnson resigned. In 1930, the church chose Reverend John H. Sims as pastor and he served for four years. Reverend P.E. Lott was invited to conduct revival services in June 1934, and was chosen as pastor in September of 1934. His administration lasted for 31 years, September 1934 through January 1966.

During those 31 years, Sister Lula Newman served as president of the Missionary Society. Several organizations were formed, which included the J.M.A., Matron's League, Y.W.A., Sunshine Band, Red Circle, Crusaders and the Pastor's Aide Club which was organized by Sister M.A. Roebuck. Membership grew rapidly and after a short period, it became apparent that a larger building was needed to accommodate the worship service. Thus, a massive building program was started. A large edifice was erected at 960 Kane Street in 1947. Upon Reverend Lott's resignation, he

recommended that Reverend Sterling Jones be accepted. Reverend Jones was immediately elected and preached his first sermon on February 13, 1965. Morning Star continued to grow, and a small plot of land was purchased directly behind the church with the intention of expanding. It was later decided that a new site was needed. Two and one-half acres of land located at 3420 Albermarle Road was purchased. This land serves as home of the present church. Reverend Jones resigned as pastor on January 25, 1970, and on March 30, 1970, Dr. M.K. Nelson was elected as the 8th pastor. Under Dr. Nelson's leadership, he designed a half-million dollar structure which was liquidated during the first week of May 1988. On April 16, 2001, after several years of illness, God called Dr. Nelson to eternal rest. The valiant men and women of this church who kept the faith through trials and tribulations give light in a dark world, peace to the troubled, compassion to the weary and love to all God's children.

On March 9, 2002, Reverend John Russell Johnson, Jr., was elected to be the 9th pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church. Under his leadership, Morning Star has grown into a large, more diversified congregation with essential ministries for internal study, growth and external outreach. The following ministries were adopted under Pastor Johnson: Daughters of Destiny, Prison, Crown, Greeters, Brotherhood, Assimilation, Children's Church, Transportation, Young Adult Choir, and Adopt-A-School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Morning Star Baptist Church.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER LARRY CANNAN UPON THE OC- CASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable career of Chief Warrant Officer Larry Cannan upon the occasion of his retirement. After nearly thirty years of dutiful service to our country in the United States Coast Guard, Larry will be retiring on August 24, 2013. Larry bravely chose to enlist in the United States Coast Guard in August

1982. Initially joining the Reserve Unit in San Diego as a Petty Officer 3rd Class, he remained in California for two years until his transfer to Buffalo, New York.

Throughout his years of service, Larry steadily advanced in rank. While serving in Buffalo, he obtained his coxswain qualification and certification.

After participating in port security unit training operations in Ahuas Tara, Honduras, Larry was called into active duty. During the first Gulf War, he selflessly served in both Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia from September 1990 to April 1991. Just three years later, Larry was once again called into active duty for Operation Restore Democracy in Haiti. Using his expertise in port security, Larry instructed training units in Valdez, Alaska in April 1995, and was a participant in training operation Marcot 96 in Nova Scotia, Canada.

In January 2001, Larry advanced to Petty Officer 1st Class, transferring to the Group Buffalo Field Intelligence Team. Two years later, he was promoted to Port Security Chief Petty Officer and completed the Chief Petty Officer Academy.

November 2006 saw Larry return to active duty as a First Coast Guard Fulltime Liaison Officer to the International Border Intelligence Team in Ottawa, Canada, where he served until February 2007. In August 2008, he commissioned as Chief Warrant Officer at Sector Buffalo Intelligence and completed Indoctrination School at the Coast Guard Academy.

Larry's last service in active duty ran from May 2010 to August 2010 for Operation Deepwater Horizon. Called into service by the Atlantic Area Logistics Unit, Larry was commended as responsible for 1/3 of the production of the 6 member unit.

From March until June in 2012, Larry authored and obtained approval as a Project Officer of Operation Spring Break, a sector Buffalo intelligence joint operation in cooperation with U.S. Border Patrol conducted along the St. Lawrence River in Ogdensburg, New York. For his exemplary service, Larry was commended for the success of the operation and distinct honor of it being the first operation of its kind in the 9th district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the truly outstanding career and service of Larry. I am sincerely grateful for his service, and wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.